

TreeLink News Bulletin

In the works



Noble Fir
Abies procera

The noble fir tree, a native of the Western United States, is an evergreen tree with a narrowly conical shape. The linear leaves are bluntly pointed, with grooves, and are gray-green to gray-blue. The pale silvery gray bark has shallow fissures that increase with age. The noble fir reaches heights of 165 feet, and is found mostly on west-facing mountain slopes.

Picture courtesy of "Trees" by Allen J. Coombes



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources
Jennifer M. Belcher - Commissioner of Public Lands

On behalf of the Washington Urban and Community Forestry Program, I want to wish everyone a happy holiday season. I hope you had a great Thanksgiving, and are preparing for the rest of the winter events. I want to thank everyone who attended the 1999 Tree City USA Forum in Sumner. We had a great time, and a lot of fantastic ideas were exchanged. I also want to thank the City of Sumner, the Sumner Forestry Commission, Batdorf and Bronson Coffee Roasters, Puget Sound Energy, and the Asplundh Tree Expert Company for making the event great. Enjoy the last month of 1999, and get ready to celebrate the new Millennium. -Sarah

Tree City USA Applications Deadline Approaching

Completed applications for 1999 Tree City USA awards must be turned in to our office by December 31, 1999. Those cities applying for recertification and growth awards also need to have their completed paperwork to us by New Year's Eve. All cities are encouraged to participate in this program from the National Arbor Day Foundation. There are four criteria for the Tree City USA designation: establish a tree board or commission, write and pass a tree ordinance, document a \$2 per capita expenditure on tree-related matters, and document an Arbor Day celebration and proclamation. If you are interested in finding out more about what it takes to become a Tree City USA and the benefits, or if you need assistance with your application, contact the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-8733.

Urban Forestry Grants Available for 2000

Washington's Urban and Community Forestry Program is excited to announce the availability of approximately \$80,000 for community forestry projects. The maximum amount to be requested for any project is \$10,000. All grant dollars must be matched on a one-to-one basis with hard dollars or in kind contributions. Eligible grantees include, but are not limited to, municipalities of any size, nonprofit organizations, and educational institutions. The grant applications will be available in January 2000 with the final application due in March. Please call the Urban and Community Forestry Program at 1-800-523-8733 to have your name or organization added to the mailing list.

Grant Writing Workshops

The Urban and Community Forestry Program will be hosting three regional grant writing workshops. The first will be held February 2, 2000, in Ellensburg, the second on February 3, in Spokane. The third workshop will be February 10, in Tacoma. These half-day workshops will cover topics such as deciding on a project to apply for, describing projects in a compelling manner, working out budgets, and administering money once the grant is awarded. For more details and to register, call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-TREE.

Trees and Utilities National Conference

The National Arbor Day Foundation is presenting the Trees and Utilities National Conference, February 1-3, 2000. "Building Alliances" is the theme, and the conference will be held at the Arbor Day Farm in Nebraska City, Nebraska. Attendees will learn how communities and utilities are meeting the challenges of growing urban trees while maintaining safe and reliable delivery of utility services. Early registration is due by January 17, 2000, to receive a discounted rate. For more information about this conference, please call NADF at 1-888-448-7337 between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm Central Time, or call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-8733.

Professional Landscape Technician Seminar

Washington Association of Landscape Professionals (WALP) and the WSU Cooperative Extension are cosponsoring the Professional Landscape Technician Seminar Series. The topic for December, Plant Identification, will be covered in three classes: Part I, December 1, 1999, at Clover Park Technical College in Lakewood; Part II, December 8, at the City of Bellevue Parks-Winter's House; and Part III at the WSU Snohomish County Education Center in Everett. Class schedule is subject to change depending on demand. January's topic is Plant Sensitivity. Registration must be in one week prior to the seminar, and registration information is available by calling Marlene Allen at (425) 357-6019 or the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-TREE.

In the works (continued)

"If I believed the world were to end tomorrow, I would still plant a tree today."

- Martin Luther

Picks and Shovels

TRIVIA: How many acres of land in Washington are used to grow Christmas Trees?

(answer is upside down below)

On the Horizon

The Washington Urban and Community Forestry Program is made possible with assistance from the USDA Forest Service. The program's purpose is to educate citizens and decision-makers about the economic, environmental, psychological and aesthetic benefits of trees and to assist local governments, citizen groups and volunteers in planting and sustaining healthy trees and vegetation wherever people live and work in Washington state.

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ISA Continuing Education Workshop

The Pacific Northwest Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture and the Oregon Department of Forestry Urban and Community Forestry Program are sponsoring "Managing Trees and Sidewalks" on December 2, 1999, at the World Forestry Center in Portland, Oregon. This one day workshop will look at tree and sidewalk conflicts and how they can be avoided. For registration information, contact Paul Ries at (503) 585-4285, Scott Plamondon at (503) 945-7391, or the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-TREE.

WCFC Meeting in Index

The Washington Community Forestry Council (WCFC) is planning a Millennium Community Forestry Project. Those interested in the project are encouraged to attend the WCFC meeting on December 8, in Index. Please call the TreeLink Hotline for more information.

OLCA/WALP Annual Conference

The Oregon Landscape Contractors Association (OLCA) and the Washington Association of Landscape Professionals are holding their annual Convention in Kauai, Hawaii. The convention is scheduled for January 17 through January 19, 2000. Topics will include Corporate Imaging, Retaining Key Employees, Standards for the Landscape Industry, and other relevant topics. Time to enjoy the sunshine and a golf tournament are also scheduled. For more information, please call OLCA at (503) 253-9172 or WALP at 1-800-833-2186, or call the TreeLink Hotline.

Forever Green: Community Forestry in Washington State. A video produced by the Washington Urban and Community Forestry Program for the National Urban Forest Conference held in Seattle last summer is now available for loan. The 12-minute video visits several Washington Communities and showcases recent community forestry successes around the state. Please call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-TREE to borrow a copy.

Building Cities of Green. This video was also produced for the National Urban Forest Conference. The 10 minute video is from American Forests, conference sponsor, and is also available for loan by calling the TreeLink Hotline.

Trees Are Terrific! This is a curriculum kit for elementary classrooms from the National Arbor Day Foundation. Including posters, tree identification guide, a video, a film strip, and a teachers guide, this kit is to aid teachers in planning their Arbor Day events, including participation in the Arbor Day Poster Contest. This is also available for loan by calling the TreeLink Hotline or for purchase from the NADF on the web at www.arborday.org.

December

- 6-8 Washington Turf and Landscape Show. Meydenbauer Center, Bellevue, WA. For information or registration on-line visit www.wwgcsa.org, or call the TreeLink Hotline.
- 8 Washington Urban Forestry Council Meeting in Index, WA. Call the TreeLink Hotline for more information at 1-800-523-8733.
- 8 Protecting Trees During Construction. West Vancouver, British Columbia. Contact the Pacific Northwest Chapter of ISA (PNW-ISA) for more information at (503) 585-4285.
- 31 Tree City USA applications, Growth Awards, and recertifications due. Call the TreeLink Hotline for application forms or with any questions at 1-800-523-TREE.

January

- 18 Pruning Landscape Trees & Shrubs. Washington Park Arboretum, 9 am to 3 pm. Call the Center for Urban Horticulture at (206) 685-8033 for additional information.
- 20 Urban Forestry Grant Applications Available. Call the TreeLink Hotline for more information.
- 22 ISA Certification Exam in Boise, Idaho. Call the PNW-ISA at (503) 585-4285.